College of Science and Math endures budget and class cuts

By Avel Joseph
Daily Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, students could have been preparing their schedules around classes that were in danger of being cut. But the precarious situation has improved since the College of Science and Math borrowed money to make up for a $167,000 deficit left over from last year.

Phil Bailey, dean of the College of Science and Math, originally planned to cut 30 class sections. That number has dropped to about 20 after the college decided to borrow $280,000 from next year's budget.

The number of classes cut could drop even further if money from the chancellor's office becomes available.

Bailey said he knowingly overspent by $167,000 last year in order to compensate for high enrollment and to get students into the classes they needed.

"We have absolutely obsessed on making sure our students happy. We've done everything we can," he said. "We've increased class size, not bought equipment, and we've really focused on getting students into classes."

Bailey said he had hoped the budget would even itself out, but it has not. In order to make up for last year's large deficit, the college will reduce the number of part-time professors and decrease the number of color class sections that can be offered. All departments in the college will be affected, though the mathematics, statistics and biological science departments will endure the majority of the cuts.

Bailey said the cuts will affect the entire campus, not just students majoring in math and the sciences.

"He said 75 to 85 percent of the staff in the college teach to other majors.

Bailey said cutting courses and staff this winter will reduce the deficit, but not solve it.

"The bottom line is that we have a deficit and the only thing we can do is cut part-timers and courses," he said.

Bailey said in order to be able to offer as many classes to students as possible, he is borrowing the $280,000 so he will not have to cut the original 70 sections. Instead, he said, the college will now be able to keep two-thirds of the approximately 110 classes that part-timers taught.

Bailey said full-time faculty will also take on more courses, though not significant numbers of them.

He said there are funds within the College of Math and Sciences that cannot be used to fund classes directly, but that can be used as collateral for the funds borrowed from next year's College of Science budget.

Bailey said he hopes for an enrollment supplement from the chancellor's office in the near future.

"I don't know exactly how we'll deal with this (situation) later," Bailey said. "There's always a strong possibility that the chancellor will come through."

When the chancellor's office will decide is unknown, Bailey said.

If the chancellor doesn't come through, or if money is not earned in one way or another, Bailey said a deficit may continue at the end of this year.

"I got permission to run a deficit and essentially borrow from next year. They'll just deduct it from next year and I'll start out in the...

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"We've increased class size, not bought equipment, and we've really focused on getting students into classes."

-Phil Bailey

Dean, College of Science & Math

"By spring, Bailey said he hopes the situation is resolved or else the cutbacks will continue, and likely worsen."

Math Department Chair Thomas Hale said he will do everything he can to please the students.

"The premise is to do as little damage to the students as possible."

When you have to make cuts, classes, there are students who aren't going to get classes," Hale said.

In the math department, Hale said the classes that will most likely be cut are those that are first in a line of sequence.

"In classes like beginning Calculus 141, our big quarter is fall, so I didn't cut a lot of 142 because I didn't want to impede the progress of the students who had just started this quarter (with Calculus 141)," Hale said.

The statistics department is feeling the cuts as well. Department Head Robert Smith said the classes which will be cut will depend on CAPTURE results.

"We're going to watch CAPTURE and we're going to see which classes fill up most quickly," Smith said.

"Those that fill up most quickly are the ones that port-timers - what little we have left of part-time - will end up teaching."

Lora Williams, nutritional science junior, said she is concerned because everyone has to take courses in science and mathematics, whether for major, support or general education courses.

"We've accepted into Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, which is a difficult school to get into, expecting a certain quality of education," Williams said. "And because of these cuts, certain classes aren't going to be offered or will be condensed, thereby decreasing the quality of education received."

Bailey said the College of Science and Mathematics spends more for each student credit hour than any other college in the university.

"We've had a very sparse budget. It really isn't sufficient to meet the responsibilities to the students," Bailey said.

"There are other ways to get around the situation. If a student can't find a job, they can try a graduate assistantship, their financial aid package can be increased."

By spring, Bailey said he hopes the situation is resolved or else the cutbacks will continue, and likely worsen.

Bailey added that some of the borrowed money will have to be paid until next fiscal year.

"That means that our number of final paychecks aren't sent out until July, August, which are considered the new year."

Courses that may be cut are listed in the winter class schedule. But when students call in for a class that is pending, there is an announcement of zero enrollment. Bailey said he has received a couple of phone calls from students complaining.

Zero enrollment has been put on some courses, instead of eliminating a course Bailey said there is still a chance of opening them up. Courses may be opened up if an enrollment spike comes from the chancellor.

Bailey said that the decision of what courses are put at zero enrollment and which may be cut from the curriculum will be decided by the department heads.

Bailey said that he plans to split the additional $100,000 between winter and spring quarters.

He said there is no way to know at this time whether this year will produce a deficit, but a projected deficit has been estimated at $225,000. Add this to last year's $167,000 deficit and the total deficit is projected at just under $400,000.

The usual cost for winter and spring terms combined is around $600,000. After subtracting the combined deficit, approximately $200,000 of borrowed funds are left over for both winter and spring quarters.

Normally, one quarter alone would cost $90,000.

Bailey said plans on using $150,000 of this year's funds for winter, plus $100,000 of the borrowed money. The remaining $50,000 will be used for spring, along with the additional $100,000 of borrowed funds.

He said, because of this, most of the money the college receives goes into instruction, not equipment.

As far as students having to put off graduation because of the cutbacks, Bailey said for those students who may be graduating next quarter and need a class that has been cut, it is possible to alter graduation dates. But, he added, the situation is likely short-term and pushing back of graduation dates is not anticipated.

"It takes long enough to graduate the way it is," said Morgan MacLeod, ecology and systematic biology sophomore. "If this situation causes the program to become even more impacted, and it takes even longer to graduate, I may have to look into another university."

Bailey is meeting regularly with the department staff and trying to work on a resolution. If a resolution can be found soon, more sections will be opened. But Bailey said, until then, the college is trying to keep enough course sections open so those who used priority registration won't be cheated. But until the situation is resolved, it is going to be a problem.

"We need to balance the budget and we have to find a way to stay within it," Bailey said. "It's all a balancing act - a balancing of expenses, quality and what people need."

"I must say, we're working on a resolution. We've got a program that is residued or else the situation is not anticipated."

He said that this is likely short-term and pushing back of graduation dates is not anticipated.
Practically a Spaniard
By Rachel Brady

Solely for the purpose of writing this commentary, I have been studying in Spain for the last seven weeks. I have learned many cultural lessons that have amused me, surprised me and made me appreciate how different we all are in this world. Ideally, I would love for all of you to come over here and experience this first hand, because this isn’t possible, I will try to paint a picture. Maybe if you close your eyes you will be able to hear the music of flamenco and Spanish phrases ringing in your ears.

First off, living in Spain requires major adjustments to one’s daily schedule of eating, sleeping and partying. Breakfast is eaten as soon as you wake and consists of a small pastry or bread with jam. This small amount of food wouldn't normally be a problem, but lunch isn't eaten until 2:30 or 3:00 in the afternoon. It is the largest meal of the day and the whole family comes home to eat it together. Then you sleep. This period of “siesta” is not just a good idea, it’s practiced by all. The stores and businesses all close down during this time and the streets are empty. When you awake, you go back to school or work and return home at 9 or 10 p.m. when dinner is served. The other major schedule difference is the variation of bars, pubs and discotecas. Saturday night is the night to go out and the streets of Granada, my home city, are packed all night. If you are ready to party like a Spaniard, you don’t leave your house until 11 or 11:30 p.m. when you go to a bar. The pubs will then start to get crowded at about 2 a.m. The discos open at 3 a.m., but no one usually shows up to dance until 4 a.m. Dancing from four in the morning? It has been an adjustment, but one that I will definitely miss when I get back to the states. Maybe it’s a Spanish thing that will one day catch on.

On the other hand, there are many American trends that have not caught on here and probably won’t. Like fitness and health. I run everyday in a gorgeous park with rose bushes, beautiful lawns and fountains. I never tire of the tranquility of this place, but if it were in America, it would be packed with runners. I hardly ever see Spaniards running, while I have started to recognize the same set of Americans working out there. Also, there are gys here, but they are tiny and never very crowded. The food situation is an interesting one. I would give the food situation a rating of “siesta” is not just a good idea, it’s practiced by all. The stores and businesses all close down during this time and the streets are empty. When you awake, you go back to school or work and return home at 9 or 10 p.m. when dinner is served. The other major schedule difference is the variation of bars, pubs and discotecas. Saturday night is the night to go out and the streets of Granada, my home city, are packed all night. If you are ready to party like a Spaniard, you don’t leave your house until 11 or 11:30 p.m. when you go to a bar. The pubs will then start to get crowded at about 2 a.m. The discos open at 3 a.m., but no one usually shows up to dance until 4 a.m. Dancing from four in the morning? It has been an adjustment, but one that I will definitely miss when I get back to the states. Maybe it’s a Spanish thing that will one day catch on.

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Choose wisely and avoid Mustang Village

Editor,

I feel it is important that people understand not only the special situations but also the general problems with Mustang Village. They are the first to sell out of apartments every year, and not many people are aware of the problems until it is too late.

Kudos to Mustang Daily for doing some investigative reporting on "Complaints Crop Up Abinit Living at Mustang Village" Oct. 29. Today I collected my check from Mustang Village after I too had to file in small claims court.

Let me do all the freshmen a favor. I know it is hard to choose off-campus housing after living in the dorms. But let me strongly suggest that you choose Mustang Village as your very last option. It is a well-kept place, but what you don't know is how they screw you once you have signed the lease.

I have never talked to someone as happy with Mustang Village after they have been out for a month and received what was left of their security deposit. But let me start from the beginning. After paying too much money to live there, they give you a 40-plus-page handbook. This rule book goes on to list all the stupid regulations that you have there. If you thought living in the dorms was bad, living at Mustang Village is the dorms with your own bathroom and no meal plan.

Here is a short list of rules: you can't have a keg, alcohol posters or signs that can be seen from your window, you must get permission to have a guest stay longer than three days if they stay longer than three consecutive days they are supposed to pay rent and apply as a new resident, you can't bang stuff up while the railing to dry; there is no guest parking (even though there are plenty of spots in the back); no dart boards are allowed; you can only skateboard during daylight hours and so on.

And their overhead is huge. Guess who is ultimately footing the bill for the numerous office staff members, security guards, and that lame carnival during Open House at Cal Poly? You are!

And then there is the security deposit. Kiss it goodbye, they're going to take it from you. Remember to save all of your paperwork so you can take them to court and try to get your money back. But beware, it is like trying fight the IRS. I can't tell you how many times I called, wrote, wrung, and fixed the management. To no avail. I never received information regarding my security deposit. It wasn't until one week before the court case that management called me and offered to pay me what I was rightfully owed.

So, they are automatically going to get you on the carpet and upholstery, but then they contract out these cleaners to inspect each apartment on their own. So even if your apartment is perfect, these cleaners can come in and say they spent two hours cleaning your apartment and you are left to pay for it because you didn't sign anything upon moving out that talked about the state of the apartment. It could have been perfect, or a mess. It ultimately ends up being your word against theirs.

So do yourself a big favor, and talk to someone that lived wherever you are thinking of living next year and find out the facts. Don't get sucked in by Mustang Village - choose wisely.

Brad Pollard is an electrical engineering senior.

Mustang Village kicked me out because my roommate lied

Editor,

Go ahead. Lie on your application. We won't penalize you. In fact, we encourage it. Sure, don't lie. Well, it happened to me just a few weeks ago. My then-roommate lied on his application by saying that he was a non-smoker when in fact he actually does smoke, and quite heavily. He also burned incense frequently, both of which affected my asthma heavily. He also burned incense the worst it's been in the past 10 years.

It's great that Yosemite's government is providing accessible entertainment for dorm residents - there was no admission fee. But the dance simply went too late on a school night, distracting many students from studies. Study obviously comes first over school-night entertainment, so students must know what is going on at the dance from all types of dorms, not just Yosemite.

But when the time comes, it's true that many students study on school night. But the beat went on past midnight, over two hours after "quiet hours" begin on weekends. Students need to know that they have a right to quiet at 10 p.m. on weekdays and 12 a.m. on weekends. That's a universal dorm rule. But the students just gone the opposite on Thursday night: house music blasting quite noticeably from the main lounge until about 12:10 a.m. It's great that Yosemite's government is providing accessible entertainment for dorm residents - there was no admission fee. But the dance simply went too late on a school night, distracting many students from studies. Study obviously comes first over school-night entertainment, so students must know what is going on at the dance from all types of dorms, not just Yosemite.

Excuse me? Nowhere in the contract or the ever-popular resident handbook does it say that complaints have to agree with a set order of grievances.

To make matters worse, I found out a few weeks later that the woman who told me that my roommate would be the one to move did not have the authority to tell me this and that I had to move into a studio, which would raise my rent $20 per month. Not willing to miss a day of college to go to court over this, I reluctantly moved out. The woman who checked me out even had the gall to charge me because the apartment wasn't clean. It was being lived in for goodness sake!

What did she expect?

All this happened over the course of one month and I STILL haven't found the time to unpack all my things. Let this be a warning to all students to stay away from Mustang Village. It will only cause you unnecessary problems and needless stress.

A student whose name is withheld due to special circumstances.

School-night partiers needed to quiet down

Editor,

The minds behind Yosemite Hall's "Dead Man's Dance" had it all wrong when they planned their event around Halloween's party schedule, rather than the school week. The three-hour dance and haunted house was on Thursday Oct. 30 from 9 p.m. to 12 p.m., and was extremely loud. I assume they planned it on a Thursday so dorm residents got just the opposite on Thursday night: a loud party past quiet hours.

But this was just the beginning, he also had parties in his room that STARTED at midnight and left the music playing loud in his room when he wasn't even there. Yet when I complained to the management, the person I complained to said that my roommate would have to move since he had lied on his application. I even got my parents involved and they spoke to the manager about how my roommate's smoke was affecting my health. They replied that since I didn't list smoking as my number one complaint, it couldn't have been too bad.

And their overhead is huge. Guess who is ultimately footing the bill for the numerous office staff members, security guards, and that lame carnival during Open House at Cal Poly? You are!

And then there is the security deposit. Kiss it goodbye, they're going to take it from you. Remember to save all of your paperwork so you can take them to court and try to get your money back. But beware, it is like trying fight the IRS. I can't tell you how many times I called, wrote, wrung, and fixed the management. To no avail. I never received information regarding my security deposit. It wasn't until one week before the court case that management called me and offered to pay me what I was rightfully owed.

So, they are automatically going to get you on the carpet and upholstery, but then they contract out these cleaners to inspect each apartment on their own. So even if your apartment is perfect, these cleaners can come in and say they spent two hours cleaning your apartment and you are left to pay for it because you didn't sign anything upon moving out that talked about the state of the apartment. It could have been perfect, or a mess. It ultimately ends up being your word against theirs.

So do yourself a big favor, and talk to someone that lived wherever you are thinking of living next year and find out the facts. Don't get sucked in by Mustang Village - choose wisely.

Brad Pollard is an electrical engineering senior.

Women aren't mean

Editor,

This letter is in Response to Alan Dunton's "Girls are Mean" on Nov. 4.

Oh, Alan, you poor disillusioned boy. Either you are living in some sort of fantasy world or you have been watching way too much Melrose Place. The truth is that real women do not turn on each other the way you depicted in your article. Your example is not only warped but totally wrong.

Here's the deal: Men want to believe that women are that catty. They enjoy the idea of two women fighting over them so that they can make up stories, such as yours, in order to make themselves feel more attractive.

So you see, it's not the women who are mean, it's the male fantasy world that wants to believe, no, force, to believe, that women are mean.

I am not a man-hater, I just call it like I see it.

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EXPECT GREAT THINGS
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Cal Poly's top runner on the women's cross-country team likes to sing songs from "Evita" during practices with her teammates. It is one of the things Lori Fancon does to keep running fun. "It was a running tradition many years ago and there is so much gossip we can do. So we sing a couple of songs to make the time go by," Fancon explained.

Cross-country teammates Curie Mahloof and Claire Becker said Fancon tries to keep everything positive. They described her as a good runner, who is well-rounded.

"Her whole life does not depend on running. School work is very important to her. A lot of girls on the team just run and that's it. She does not let running dictate her life," Mahloof said.

In the Big West Conference Cross Country Championships held in Orange County last Saturday, Fancon placed fourth in the women's five-kilometer run with a 18:53 time. Fancon helped the Cal Poly women's team place third in the conference championships, behind first-place Boise State and second-place Utah State.

This is Fancon's fourth and last season running for Cal Poly. She has run cross-country and track during the past four years. She started track and cross-country in the 10th grade, Fancon said. "My dad was the cross-country coach kind of recruited me. He said I would get better in basketball if I run," Fancon said. "The first time I ran, I couldn't breathe, and I was so sore. I felt like, 'Why would anyone do this sport?'" By her senior year in high school, running was Fancon's only sport.

Fancon's coaches have intervened in her sports decisions throughout her life. "I started track and cross-country in the 10th grade," Fancon said. "My dad was the coach. One day he called me and said, 'Track practice starts at 3 p.m. Try out.'"

Fancon ran for her high school in the small Kern County town of Taft, where she grew up. She was the town's best track runner and was its second stop light. She explained that she had no clue how her life would change once she was recruited for collegiate sports.

"I had one race that got me ranked, and then the letters came. I was not sure about coming to a four-year university, even though I got good grades. I was shy. I liked running because it got my aggression out," she said.

Fancon credits coach Terry Crawford for bringing her to Cal Poly. "She encouraged me to establish myself," Fancon said.

"I always felt like I was the greatest ever. I made the team only because I could run, but I didn't know that then," Fancon said.

**Men's Basketball tickets on sale**

"Our cheerleaders complained about the support," said Ben Bartles, athletic ticket manager. "They knew Santa Barbara didn't come very far. They had been running neck and neck all season. They felt they could run with them. Santa Barbara just had a great race," Crawford said.

"The coach said I would get better in basketball, but I did not know that then," Fancon said.

"I never took a break. I've never been seriously injured. Only thing I had was minor knee surgery in my junior year in high school." Fancon was fourth in the women's cross-country and track, but she started out in sports playing basketball in junior high.

"I think that being the greatest ever I made the team only because I could run, but I didn't know that then," Fancon said.

**Cal Poly loses starter Alii Abrew**

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